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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

AND

**School Medical Officer**

FOR THE YEAR

**1939.**

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RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent  
of the Corporation Infectious Diseases Hospital,  
Administrative Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical  
Officer, etc.*

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Public Health Department,  
December, 1940.

*The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of Wallasey.*

*Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen.*

*I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1939.*

*For reasons which are obvious, the Annual Report for 1939 has been markedly curtailed. All the information usually included has, however, been filed in the office so that continuity of record will be maintained.*

*The work of the Department was seriously hampered by the outbreak of war and the large amount of work necessary to put the Medical Branch of the Air Raid Precaution Services into working order. I should like to express my deep appreciation of the large amount of work done by many members of the staff in that direction.*

*It is satisfactory to be able to record a diminished incidence of infectious disease and a marked diminution in the number of infant deaths.*

*Figures for the first full year of the new Maternity Hospital are included in the Report.*

*It is regrettable that the provision of new Clinics and Offices could not be proceeded with on account of the outbreak of war.*

*My thanks are due to the Committee for their consideration and support, and to the staff for their continued and loyal assistance and response to all demands made upon them.*

*I am,*

*Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*Your obedient Servant,*

RONALD B. BERRY,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres, as ascertained by Ordnance Survey,						
January, 1932	...	...	...	...	...	5,908
River and Sea frontage	...	...	...	Slightly less than eight miles.		
Census Population, April, 1931	...	...	...	...		97,626
Registrar-General's estimated population at middle of 1939						
(a) For Birth Rate	...	...	...	...		93,990
(b) For Death Rate	...	...	...	...		93,190
Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1939	...	...	...	...		26,701
Empty	„	„	„	„	...	1202
Rateable Value, 1938-1939	...	...	...	...	...	£869,532
„ „ 1939-1940	...	...	...	...	...	£877,164
Yield of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£3,415

				Total	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	1,239	658	581
Illegitimate	...	...	...	54	30	24
				—	—	—
			Total	...	1,293	688 605
					—	—

Birth Rate—13.7

Still Births, 55. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—40.8

The number of Births notified by Doctors was 43, Midwives 1,099, Parents or others 120; the remainder not being notified.

				M	F	Totals
Deaths to Dec. 31st	...	...	...	603	666	1,269
Death-rate, per 1,000 of estimated population of 93,190	...	...	...			13.6
Uncertified Deaths :—	-13	;	Percentage of Deaths :—	1.02.		

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth (Headings 29 and 30 of Registrar-General's Short List) :—

Puerperal Sepsis —. Rate per 1,000 live and still-births 0.00 } Total  
 Other puerperal causes—2. do. 1.54 } 1.54

Deaths of Infants under ONE year of age ... 63

Death-rate of Infants under ONE year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 48.9

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 49.4

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live  
 births... 37.7

Neo-Natal Rate per 1,000 births ... 33.3

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... —

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 1

Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis), under 1 year 6 }  
 Under 2 years ... 1 } 7

Diarrhoea and Enteritis Mortality Rate under 1 year, per  
 1,000 live births ... 4.66



CAUSES OF DEATH.	SEXES.		DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT												Total Deaths in Institutions in the Borough whether of residents or non-residents.	DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.	
	M.	F.	All Ages	Under 1	2	Under 10	20	Under 25	35	Under 45	Under 55	Under 65	Under 75	Over 75		IN WALLASEY	
All causes { Certified .. Uncertified	597 6	659 7	1256 13	63 ..	8 ..	17 ..	10 ..	23 ..	40 ..	62 ..	100 1	238 ..	322 5	373 7	222 ..	MILL LANE HOSPITAL— Residents .....	19
	603	666	1269	63	8	17	10	23	40	62	101	238	327	380	222	Non-Residents .....	—
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOME— Residents .....	12
2. Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Non-Residents .....	—
3. Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	NEW STREET C.W. CENTRE— Residents .....	—
4. Whooping Cough .....	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Non-Residents .....	—
5. Diphtheria .....	10	1	11	..	2	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL— Residents .....	124
6. Influenza .....	7	22	29	2	..	1	..	..	2	..	3	5	4	12	3	Non-Residents .....	7
7. Encephalitis Lethargica .....	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL— Residents .....	47
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Non-Residents .....	2
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory System .....	25	18	43	..	..	..	..	6	12	9	9	6	1	..	8	LEASOWE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL— Residents .....	—
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	4	8	12	..	..	2	3	2	2	1	..	1	1	..	16	Non-Residents .....	11
11. Syphilis .....	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	OTHER PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS— Residents .....	—
12. General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis .....	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	Non-Residents .....	—
13. Cancer (Malignant Disease) .....	84	117	201	..	..	..	..	..	4	17	23	67	62	28	28	TOTAL .....	222
14. Diabetes .....	10	13	23	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4	6	9	3		
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage etc. ....	33	40	73	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	18	27	24	8		
16. Heart Disease .....	156	186	342	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	29	48	109	148	15		
17. Aneurysm .....	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..		
18. Other circulatory diseases .....	51	41	92	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	14	32	41	10		
19. Bronchitis .....	14	13	27	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	7	6	11	3		
20. Pneumonia (all forms) ..	23	21	44	4	..	..	..	..	1	2	4	10	9	14	11		
21. Other Respiratory Diseases .....	4	8	12	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	2	5	1	6		
22. Peptic Ulcer .....	9	2	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	4	2	2	4		
23. Diarrhoea, etc. ....	8	3	11	6	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	2		
24. Appendicitis .....	8	3	11	..	..	..	2	2	2	2	..	..	3	..	8		
25. Cirrhosis of Liver .....	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..		
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ....	1	7	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	4	..	1		
27. Other Digestive diseases .....	7	15	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	7	3	6	20		
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	17	20	37	..	..	1	..	1	1	4	3	8	12	7	10		
29. Puerperal Sepsis .....	..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
30. Other puerperal causes ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2		
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. ....	27	21	48	46	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15		
32. Senility .....	18	29	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	43	..		
33. Suicide .....	7	4	11	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	5	2	1	3		
34. Other Violence .....	22	11	33	1	..	1	1	4	3	2	3	5	3	10	13		
35. Other defined causes ..	47	53	100	4	3	2	3	3	7	7	9	18	24	20	19		
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown .....	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..		
TOTALS .....	603	666	1269	63	8	17	10	23	40	62	101	238	327	380	222		

## DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR BELONGING TO WALLASEY.

Wards ..	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	...	Total
Totals ..	4	1	4	1	2	3	1	9	7	6	4	4	2	4	2	9	...	63

## NUMBER OF INQUESTS ON

Residents (all ages) ..... 32 }  
Non-Residents (all ages) . 11 } 43

Legitimate Children—Under 1 year —  
1 and under 2 years —  
2 years and over .. —

Illegitimate Children—  
Under 1 year ..... —  
1 and under 2 years .... —

DEATHS OUTSIDE WALLASEY—  
Not in Public Institutions  
INWARD TRANSFERS..... 27

TRANSFERABLE DEATHS in Wallasey  
of Non-Residents :—  
OUTWARD TRANSFERS ..... 26



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Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Diarrhoea) ... ..	0.13
Phthisis Death-rate per 1,000 of population	0.46
Respiratory Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Phthisis) ... ..	0.89

### PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart Diseases.....	342	Cerebral Hæmorrhage.....	73
Cancer .....	201	Congenital Debility, Premature Births etc....	48
Other Circulatory Diseases	92	Violent Deaths (including suicides).....	44
Respiratory Diseases—		Influenza .....	29
Pneumonia ..... 44	} 83	Other Digestive Diseases	22
Bronchitis..... 27		Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	12
Other..... 12			
Phthisis.....	43		
Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	37		

### HOSPITAL SERVICES (within the Borough).

The following Hospitals and Institutions are PROVIDED by the LOCAL AUTHORITY within the Borough :—

1. Mill Lane Hospital : For Infectious Diseases (other than small pox).
2. Tuberculosis Sanatorium : One block, 22 beds, and one chalet with one bed, for advanced and observation cases.  
Mill Lane Hospital.
3. Highfield Maternity Hospital : 21 Beds.

In addition to the above there are the following Voluntary Hospitals within the Borough :—

4. VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL: General Hospital with 135 Beds (including 36 for children). There is an out-patient department (surgical cases only). There is also a charitable Dispensary on the same premises.
5. WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL: General Hospital with 41 beds, which are used for men, women and children as necessity arises. This Hospital also has an out-patient department.
6. LIVERPOOL OPEN-AIR HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, LEASOWE: Orthopaedic Hospital with 236 beds (198 for children and 38 for adult females). Patients are admitted to this Hospital from various parts of the country. The Corporation has ten beds in this Hospital on terms.

### HOSPITAL SERVICES (Outside the Borough).

BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL: 125 beds are available at this Institution for sick, maternity and mental cases.

### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

Admissions to :—

B'head Municipal Instit'n	159	Eastham House .. ..	12
B'head Municipal Hospital	588	County Mental Hospital	33

### ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The number of unemployed persons in the Borough in January, 1939, was 4,062, and in December, 3,598 as compared with 3,767 and 3,894 respectively in January and December, 1938.

During the year 1939, £33,635 16s. 11d. was expended on outdoor relief in addition to £4,684 2s. 11d. to unemployment cases.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Clinics at which a doctor attends on each occasion, are held in the afternoon of the following days:—

New Street Centre—Tues. & Fri.    Princess Road—Thursdays  
Wallasey Village—Wednesdays    Oakenholt Rd., Moreton—Tues.

The number of attendances during the year was:—

	New Street	Moreton	New Brighton	Wallasey Village	Totals
Children under one year of age ..	3,825	2,447	2,035	2,439	10,746
Children between one and five yrs.	1,597	545	1,194	839	4,175

### ANTE-NATAL.

A woman doctor is in attendance at each Clinic. Special cases are referred from these Clinics to the Consultant Obstetrician who visits Highfield Maternity Hospital on alternate Mondays and his services are available whenever required.

The following figures summarise the work done at the Ante-natal and at the Post-natal Clinics during the year:—

#### ANTE-NATAL.

Expectant mothers on books at January 1st	...	...	...	...	189
New cases during the year	...	...	...	...	521
Names on books at December 31st	...	...	...	...	89
Attendances of Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	2477
No. of Expectant Mothers attending Consultative Ante-					
Natal Clinic	...	...	...	...	15
,,    Attendances	...	...	...	...	19
First-visits to homes of Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	611
Revisits    do.                      do.                      do.	...	...	...	...	331

#### POST-NATAL.

Post-natal attendances at Clinics	..	..	..	..	107
Visits and re-visits to Post-natal Cases					103

### EVACUATION.

42 Expectant Mothers were evacuated to a reception area on 2nd September, 1939. Many of these, however, drifted back to Wallasey before their confinement.



## HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The year 1939 was the first complete year for this hospital and the hospital has worked to capacity—many requests for admission having to be refused.

It will be appreciated that, owing to the impossibility of stating the exact date a confinement will occur, the difficulties of booking for a maternity hospital of twenty-one beds are not slight, as it is necessary to ensure that the Hospital is not overcrowded and yet it is essential to use the accommodation as fully as possible.

It has been decided to book up to forty cases a month, and so far this arrangement appears to be working satisfactorily, though at times the pressure on the accommodation is heavy and at times there are, for short periods, empty beds.

The highest number of cases in at any one time during the year was 29 and the lowest 10.

With booking at this figure there is little opportunity for the admission of urgent cases, though they are taken if at all possible.

During the year 464 cases were admitted :—

	In Hosp. Jan. 1/39.	No. of Admissions 1939.	Confine- ments 1939.	No. of Children	Dis- charged, Undelivered.	Admit- ted after C'ment.	Remain- ing Dec. 31/39
Doctors' cases	8†	256*	252	253	1	3	4
Midwives cases	6	209	209	210	—	—	9

† 1 confined 1939.

\* 1 admitted twice.

	Total	Doctors' cases	Midwives' cases
No. of Stillbirths	... 14	10	4
Infant Deaths	... 10‡	7	3

‡ 1 admitted with mother after confinement (child premature and cyanosed and died 4 hours after admission—twin pregnancy ; other stillborn).

Maternal Deaths	... 1§	1§	—
-----------------	--------	----	---

§ admitted as emergency, after manipulation at home—Caesarian section. Cause of death—Paralytic Ileus, Caesarian Section, Placenta Praevia.

	Total	Doctors' Cases	Midwives cases
Repair of Perineums	... 189	141	48
Breech Presentations	... 14	7*	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 5	1	4
Placenta Praevia	... 2	2	—

\* 1 with extended legs.

**The Infant Deaths were as follows :—**

Prematurity	... 3	Tentorial Tear	... 1
Asphyxia Pallida	... 2	Hydrocephalus	... 1
Spina Bifida	... 1	Broncho-Pneumonia	... 1
Asphyxia	... 1		

**Puerperal Pyrexia.**—Five cases occurred during the year the causes being as follows :—



- 1 Influenza.
- 2 Sapoemia following Forceps Delivery.
- 1 Cause indefinite.
- 1 Pelvic Cellulios, Deep Thrombosis.

**Operations :—**

Caesarian Section	...	2	Episiotomy...	...	3
Cranioclast and Division of			Version	...	1
Clavicle	...	1	Manual Removal of Placenta		3
Artificial Rupture of					
Membranes	...	4			
Forceps Deliveries	...	44			

**Complications :—**

*Ante-Natal* : Albuminuria 9 ; *Ante-Partum* Haemorrhage 7.

*Post Natal* :—

<i>Mother</i>				<i>Child</i>	
P.P.H.	...	12	Deformed Arm	...	1
Eclampsia	...	1	Deformed Foot or Leg	...	2
Albuminuria	...	2	Persistent Cloaca	...	1
Mastitis	...	2	Hydrocephalus	...	1
Haematoma of Vulva	...	1	Sticky Eyes	...	4
			Extra digits and deformed toe		1
			Anencephalus	...	1
			Facial Paralysis	...	1
			Pemphigus Neonatorum	...	1

The following abnormal presentations were dealt with :—

Transverse	...	2	Breech	...	14
Brow	...	1	Face to Pubis	...	4
Extended Arm	.....	1	Hand and Cord	...	1

*Consultations* :—re obstetric condition 28. ; re Heart 1.

2 Mothers were transferred to Mill Lane Hospital—rise of temperature. (1 Saproemia following Forceps Delivery, degeneration in fibroid).

1 Child was transferred to Mill Lane Hospital—Pemphigus Neonatorum.

In the 209 Midwives' cases doctors were called for 71 cases, the main conditions being as follows :—

<i>Mother</i>				<i>Child</i>	
Ruptured Perineum	...	42	Poor colour	...	3
Delayed Labour	...	13	Sticky Eyes	...	2
A.P. Haem.	...	1	Discoloration of Head	...	1
P.P. Haem.	...	2	Other conditions	...	1
Albuminuria	...	1			
Pyrexia	...	2			
Other conditions	...	3			
		—			—
		64			7
		—			—

**MATERNITY CASES ADMITTED TO BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.**

The Corporation made a declaration under Section 5 of the Local Government Act, 1929, to the effect that as and from 1st October, 1939, all assistance granted by the Council under the

Maternity and Child Welfare Acts, as amended by the Public Health Act, 1936, to persons ordinarily resident in the Borough, be granted by virtue of those Acts and not by way of Poor Law Relief. From the 1st October to the end of the year 13 cases were admitted to the Birkenhead Municipal Hospital under the new arrangement.

### MATERNITY EMERGENCY UNIT.

Arrangements were made early in the year with the Liverpool Maternity Hospital for the use in Wallasey of the Maternity Unit for dealing with difficult domiciliary obstetric emergencies.

### SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS.

First visits and revisits to Infants under one year of age	...	6,224
Visits and revisits to Children one to five years of age	...	4,951
Total visits and revisits to children under one and up to five years of age for any purpose whatsoever, including	307	
visits and revisits re Minor Infections	...	11,175
Visits re notified Infectious Diseases	...	443
„ Infant Life Protection	...	252
„ and re-visits to expectant mothers	...	942

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

No deaths were registered from Puerperal Sepsis but there were two deaths due to other puerperal causes.

### NEW STREET CENTRE.

This Centre was closed for the reception of resident cases in July, 1939.

### NUTRITION.

Particulars of dried milk given free and also of the Milk sold are as under :—

#### Free Dried Milk—

		Compared with previous year.
Lb. Packets given during the year	... 4,124 ...	4,381
To number of Infants under one year...	195 ...	221
Do. expectant mothers	... 54 ...	81
Do. nursing Do.	... 98 ...	75
At a cost of	... £263 7s. 6d. ...	£273 16s. 3d.

#### Milk Sold—

Lb. Packets, 11,049 realising... £849 18s. 0d.

### FRESH MILK.

Particulars of the milk given during 1939 are as under :—

No. of Pints given	.. .. .	74,228
To number of children under five years	.. .. .	282
At a cost of	.. .. .	£600 13 11

**MIDWIVES ACT.**

Twenty-five Midwives notified their intention to practise in the Borough during the year (excluding six at the Corporation Maternity Hospital and four Municipal Midwives. Three midwives voluntarily surrendered their certificates for compensation and two certificates were compulsorily surrendered during 1939.

During 1939 the four Municipal Midwives attended 330 cases ; of these, 103 were attended as maternity Nurses.

The following is a list of the causes for which Medical help was sought

**CONDITION OF MOTHER.**

			Private M'wives	M'cipal M'wives	H'field M'nity Hospital.	Total
Protracted labour	...	...	12	15	13	40
Retained placenta	...	...	1	1	—	2
„ membranes	...	...	2	4	—	6
Post-partum Haemorrhage	...	...	1	5	2	8
Ante-partum Haemorrhage	...	...	3	2	1	6
Laceration of Perineum	...	...	7	22	42	71
Albuminuria	...	...	—	—	1	1
Rise of Temperature	...	...	6	7	—	13
Uterine Inertia	...	...	6	2	—	8
Miscarriage	...	...	—	1	—	1
Abortion	...	...	—	3	—	3
Mal-presentation	...	...	—	1	—	1
Abnormal presentation	...	...	6	5	—	11
General weakness	...	...	4	7	—	11
Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	2	2
Various other causes	...	...	6	16	3	25

**CONDITION OF CHILD.**

Feebleness of Infant	...	...	4	9	—	13
Prematurity	...	...	2	4	—	6
Inflamed Eyelids	...	...	2	11	2	15
Other conditions	...	...	—	—	5	5

**PUERPERAL PYREXIA.**

There were fifteen notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia during the year, none of which proved fatal.

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.**

Three of the Health Visitors are qualified to treat, by douching, the eyes of children suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Two cases were notified during the year. Both cases were cured with no impairment of vision.



### INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	4 Weeks and under 3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Deaths in previous year.
All causes—Certified	34	8	—	1	43	5	6	5	4	63	76
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Small-pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Diphtheria & Croup .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdom'l Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Convulsions .....	4	2	—	—	6	—	2	1	—	9	8
Laryngitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	1	4	8
Diarrhoea .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis .....	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	1	6	6
Gastritis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Overlying .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth .....	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5	—
Atelectasis .....	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—
Congenital .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malformations .....	2	2	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	6	15
Premature Birth .....	18	1	—	—	19	—	1	—	—	20	24
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus .....	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	3
Other Causes .....	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	4	8
Totals .....	34	8	—	1	43	5	6	5	4	63	78

### CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

No. of persons who were receiving children for reward at Jan. 1st	25
do. on Register at December 31st ... ..	24
No. of children under 9 years on Register at Jan. 1st	36
do. Deaths of children during the year ... ..	—
do. Inquests on children dealt with under the Act	—
do. Children on Register at December 31st	20
do. Visits during the year ... ..	252
Health Visitors who are Infant Protection Visitors	7

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance services are considered adequate for the area.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (Including Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED IN WALLAS  
DURING 1939.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Notifi- cations.	Cases notified at ages											C
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	
Small-pox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Malaria .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	187	3	—	9	5	11	48	42	30	25	11	3	
Erysipelas .....	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	11	
Scarlet Fever .....	213	—	7	9	7	14	95	30	30	15	6	—	
Enteric Fever .....	21	—	—	—	1	3	5	—	4	7	1	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	1	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia .....	54	2	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	11	7	14	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	73	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	10	28	10	15	
Other forms of Tuber- culosis .....	10	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	2	1	1	
Measles .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	
Whooping Cough .....	4	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Polio-Encephalitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>TOTALS.....</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>45</b>	

**IMMUNISATION.**

During the course of the year, 112 children were immunised. The full course of treatment was administered to 110 of these children.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALL-POX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS,  
1917.**

No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.



**VACCINATION.**

Statement of Vaccination for the year ending 31st December, 1938 :—

Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,092
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	645
Insusceptible	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Had Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Postponed by Medical Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Certificates of Exemption (Conscientious objection)	...	...	...	...	...	...	297
Removals certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Removals not found and not accounted for	...	...	...	...	...	...	67

**MEASLES.**

Measles was made compulsorily notifiable in the later months of the year. There were no deaths. The number of cases notified was 2, and the number reported 6.

**WHOOPIING COUGH.**

Whooping Cough was also made compulsorily notifiable in the later months of the year. The number of cases notified was 4 and the number reported 68. 5 Cases were found not to be Whooping Cough. One of the cases proved fatal.

**DISINFECTION.**

Houses disinfected after fevers, Phthisis, etc...	..	..	..	..	513
Rooms disinfected	..	..	..	..	98
Books from Public, Private, or School Libraries disinfected	..	..	..	..	658
Articles disinfected	..	..	..	..	17,367
Articles destroyed..	..	..	..	..	120

**ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**

The accompanying table gives particulars of the cases admitted to Mill Lane Infectious Diseases Hospital during 1939 :—

	In Hospital 1st Jan. 1939	Ad- mitted	Recov- ered and Dis- charged	Died	In Hospital 31st Dec. 1939	
Scarlet Fever .. ..	14	159*	168	—	5*	* 1 plus Typhoid * 1 sent in as Ton- sillitis
Diphtheria .. ..	23	175*	168	†9	21	
Diphtheria Carriers .. ..	1	12	12	—	1	
Typhoid Fever .. ..	—	4	4	—	—	
Typhoid Fever (not confirmed)	—	5	5	—	—	
Para Typhoid B. .. ..	—	17	17	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	
Erysipelas .. ..	—	7	5	—	2	
Whooping Cough .. ..	—	6	5	1	—	
Tonsillitis .. ..	1	13	13	—	1	
Pemphigus Neonatorum .. ..	—	2	2	—	—	
Influenza .. ..	—	1*	1	—	—	* Sent in as Diph-
Influenzal Pneumonia .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	theria.
Gastro Enteritis .. ..	—	2*	1	1	—	*1 sent in as Scarlet
Scabies .. ..	—	2	2	—	—	Fever
Measles .. ..	—	2*	2	—	—	*Sent in as Sc. Fever
No infectious disease .. ..	—	5	5	—	—	* 4 sent in as Scarlet
Puerperal rise of temperature	—	1	1	—	—	Fever. 1 sent in as
Totals .. ..	39	415	413	11	30	Diphtheria.

† In every instance the patient was admitted to hospital after the third day of disease.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

There has been a very large increase of new cases attending the Dispensary but the number of cases diagnosed as Tuberculous has been markedly few.

In addition, there were 133 examinations (104 males, 29 females) of candidates for admission to the Corporation Superannuation Scheme.



## CONTACTS.

There has been a marked decrease of Malnutrition among contacts from 42%—5%.

## DEATHS.

*Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

	1939	1938	1937
No. of deaths ... ..	43	61	65
Death rate per 1,000 of population ...	0.46	0.62	0.67
Cases dead within two years of notification ... ..	31	33 (55%)	31 (47%)
Non-notified deaths ... ..	2	7	9

*Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.* 1939

No. of deaths ... ..	12
Death-rate per 1,000 of population ... ..	0.12
Cases dead within two years of notification	2
Non-notified deaths (5 Tubercular Meningitis, 1 Peritoneum, 1 Kidney, 1 Cervical Glands & Tibia)	8

## NOTIFICATIONS (Pulmonary).

There were 73 notifications (Males 45, females 28), plus 18 transfers from other areas.

## NOTIFICATIONS (Non-Pulmonary).

There were 10 notifications (3 males, 7 females)—no transfers from other areas.

CLASSIFICATION OF NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.  
Abdomen, 3; Bones and Joints, 4; Cervical Glands, 3.

## BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cases admitted during 1939 ... ..	32	1	33
Discharged during 1939 ... ..	27	2	29

## TREATMENT OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Rest for febrile cases. Rest combined with graduated exercises for afebrile cases.

1. *Artificial Pneumothorax.*

*Males* 18—(7 continuing treatment).

7 working constantly ... ..	38%	2 in-patient Mill Lane Sanatorium ... ..	11%
3 unemployed .. ..	17%	3 since died ... ..	17%
2 transferred to Cheshire Joint Sanatorium ... ..	11%	1 left the district ... ..	6%

*Females* 17—(9 continuing treatment).

6 working constantly ... ..	34%	2 unfit for work ... ..	12%
3 transferred to Cheshire Joint Sanatorium ... ..	18%	2 working part time ... ..	12%
3 in-patient Mill Lane Sanatorium ... ..	18%	1 left the district ... ..	6%

Total number of refills during the year 325 (221 males, 114 females).

## MILL LANE SANATORIUM.

				Adults	Children	Total
Admitted during 1939	...	...	...	46	2	48
Discharged during 1939	...	...	...	34	2	36
Fatal during 1939	...	...	...	8	—	8

## RESULTS.

Patients discharged	" Much Improved "	...	6	(17½%)
"	" Improved "	...	26	(73%)
"	" No Improvement "	...	4	(11%)

## CHESHIRE JOINT SANATORIUM.

				Males	Females	Total
Admitted during 1939	...	...	...	8	11	19
Discharged during 1939	...	...	...	7	13	20

## RESULTS.

Working full time	...	...	...	2	3	5
Working part time	...	...	...	1	3	4
Unemployed but fit for work	...	...	...	1	—	1
Unfit for work	...	...	...	1	3	4
Since died	...	...	...	1	—	1
Left the district	...	...	...	1	1	2
Transferred to Mill Lane Sanatorium				—	3	3

## LEASOWE OPEN-AIR HOSPITAL.

				Female Adults.	Children	Total
Admitted during 1939	...	...	...	2	1	3
Discharged during 1939	..	..	...	3	5	8

## RESULTS.

Fit for School	...	...	...	—	2	2
Working part time	...	...	...	1	1	2
Left the district	...	...	...	—	1	1
Left against medical advice	...	...	...	2	—	2
Under School age	...	...	...	—	1	1

## VISITS.

The number of visits paid in 1939 by the Dispensary Nurses and Health Visitors was 1,689 (Wallasey 1,559), (Moreton 130).

## TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTS.

Of 75 children tested—55 were contacts of cases of Tuberculosis; 60% gave a positive reaction. These cases will be kept under observation.

607 X-ray examinations were made compared with 547 in 1938 and 445 in 1937.

17 Orthopaedic cases were also X-rayed.



RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total.		
	Adults.		Children.	Adults.		Children.	Adults.		Children.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Grand Total.
A.—New Cases examined during the year (excluding contacts) :—									
(a) Definitely tuberculosis .. .. .	36	21	—	2	1	1	37	24	3
*(b) Diagnosis not completed .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
(c) Non-Tuberculous .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	120	92	42
									= 65
									= 3
									= 299
B.—Contacts examined during the year :—									
(a) Definitely tuberculous .. .. .	1	3	2	1	—	—	1	3	1
*(b) Diagnosis not completed .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Non-tuberculous .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	59	29
									= 7
									= —
									= 148
C.—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as—									
(a) Recovered .. .. .	4	5	6	1	5	1	9	6	15
(b) Non-Tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	156	152	72
									= 452
D.—Number of Cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st :—									
(a) Definitely tuberculous .. .. .	155	134	8	7	13	18	168	152	28
(b) Diagnosis not completed .. .. .	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
									= 376
									= 3
									= 379

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st .. .. .	414	7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :— (a) Personal .. .. . (b) Other .. .. .	55 499
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years .. .. .	18	8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officer to homes (including personal consultations) .. .. .	13
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of" .. .. .	43	9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes .. .. .	1689
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) .. .. .	43	10. Number of :— (a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined .. .. . (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work .. .. .	466 607
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts) .. .. .	2070 Tub. 477 Mal.	11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above .. .. .	1
6. Number of Inured Persons under Domesticary Treatment on the .. .. .	25	12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st .. .. .	199



### VENEREAL DISEASES.

The number of new cases for 1939 was 66—a decrease of 7 on 1938, and 15 on 1937. After deducting the Non-Venereal cases, the number of definite cases was 36, which is 9 less than in 1938. (This is the smallest number for any year on record).

The attendances were:—			1939	1938	1937
Males	...	...	1,138	2,337	3,464
Females	...	...	129	210	183

The male attendances are about half those in 1938—this is due to fewer irrigations needed on account of using a new drug (Sulphanilamide), and also a large reduction in the number of new cases.

The following are particulars of the 33 cases of V.D.:—

			Syphilis	Gonorrhoea
Males	...	...	4	21
Females	...	...	1	7

100 specimens in connection with the clinic were examined at the Laboratory, Mill Lane Dispensary. 50 specimens of blood were sent from the Clinic for Wasserman reaction.

### Return of Wallasey residents treated in Liverpool and Birkenhead areas during the year.

			L'pool	B'head
Syphilis	...	...	6	—
Chancre	...	...	1	—
Gonorrhoea	...	...	23	10
Conditions other than Venereal	...	...	23	—
			—	—
			53	10
Total attendances of all cases	...	...	1,066	525

This is a decrease of 8 cases of Syphilis and 10 cases of Gonorrhoea also 854 fewer attendances than in 1938.

### LABORATORY WORK.

The arrangements for carrying out the bacteriological work in the Borough are:—

1. Simple throat swabs in connection with Diphtheria cases, specimens of sputum in connection with Phthisis cases, and various discharges in connection with Venereal Diseases are examined at our own Laboratory, Mill Lane Dispensary. Blood specimens in connection with Venereal Diseases are sent to Liverpool University Laboratories for examination.

Particulars in regard to these are:—

<i>Specimens Examined.</i>			<i>Number found to contain</i>		
Sputum	...	466	Tubercle Bacilli	...	80
Throat Swabs	...	3341	Diphtheria Bacilli	...	352
Venereal	...	96	Gonococci	...	50

### BLIND PERSONS ACTS, 1920-1938.

The duties of the Council under the Blind Persons Acts, 1920-1938 are administered by the Health Committee.

One Home Teacher is employed who paid 2,126 visits to blind persons during 1939.

### REGISTRATION OF BLIND PERSONS.

	M.	F.	Totals
No. on Register at January 1st ...	77	82	159
No. added during the year :			
New Cases ... ..	6	8	14
Transfers from other towns	2	1	3
Totals ...	85	91	176
No. of Removals from Register owing to :—			
Leaving Wallasey ... ..	4	4	8
Death ... ..	5	7	12
Totals ...	9	11	20
No. on Register at December 31st ...	76	80	156

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

No. receiving assistance at January 1st ... ..	105
„ receiving assistance at December 31st ... ..	101
Amount disbursed by way of allowances, January to December ... ..	£4,591 12s. 9d.

### MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

*During the twelve months ending 31st December, 1939, twenty-three people were examined by Dr. H. R. Bickerton of whom fourteen were found to be blind, while nine could not be certified.*

The average age of the fourteen blind people was 67 years 6 months.

### REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This work is carried out under the direction of the Borough Surveyor. There are no ashpits in the Borough. Particulars as to the quantities of refuse destroyed or otherwise disposed of in the past year as are under :—

Quantity of Refuse—	T.	C.	Q.
Delivered to Destructor	9,325	18	0
Quantity tipped away ...	14,734	14	0
Total collected ... ..	24,060	12	0

Wet refuse collected in added areas and delivered to farms, 102 loads.

### HOUSING.

296 new houses were erected, 82 in course of erection and 33 houses were converted into flats during 1939.

No Demolition or Clearance Areas were scheduled during 1939.



**HOUSING ACT, 1936.**

No of houses inspected for housing defects	...	...	5,347
„ inspections made	...	...	10,683
Dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation			2
No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	...		2,610
„ dwelling houses which were rendered fit by formal action by owners	...	...	14
„ dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	2
„ houses demolished voluntarily or under Demolition orders	...	...	10
„ Closing Orders made on underground rooms	...		1
„ cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...		52
„ persons concerned	...	...	350

**FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.****FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**

The administration of the sampling and control of Food and Drugs, together with the various markings of many commodities had to be carried out under two Acts during the year.

On October 1st, 1939, the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, was superseded by the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, an Act which was passed to consolidate legislation on food control.

During the year 338 samples were analysed, 24 of which were found to be adulterated. Proceedings were instituted in two instances for the watering of milk (9 per cent. and 3 per cent. respectively). Both cases were dismissed.

**FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT.**

11 samples of Fertilisers and 4 samples of Feeding Stuffs were submitted for analysis during the year. All except 2 samples of fertiliser complied with the requirements of the Act.

**MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS****MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.****DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.****Control and Supervision of Milk Supplies (Biological Examination).**

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1939 :

	1939	1938	1937	1936
Number of Milk samples taken	298	306	317	299
Number of positive results (T.B.)	34	24	39	24
Percentage	11.31	7.84	11.98	8.55

**Milk Production and Registered Dairies.**

There are 20 Registered Cow Keepers in the Borough, 5 being licensed producers of Accredited Milk.

In addition to the dairy farms there are 50 Registered Dairies, a number of which are licensed for the sale of milk under the terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-38. There are also 150 shops registered for the sale of milk in sealed bottles.



Visits to Registered Dairy Premises	...	...	...	400
„ Dairy Farms	...	...	...	170
„ premises registered for sale of bottled milk				15

### Designated Milks.

The following is a summary of licences issued by this Authority under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-38 :—

Farmers licensed for the production of Accredited milk	...	5
Dairies licensed to bottle and retail Tuberculin Tested milk	...	5
Dairies licensed to retail bottled Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	20
Dairies licensed to produce Pasteurised Milk	...	2
Dairies licensed to bottle and retail Pasteurised Milk	...	8

During the year 77 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these nine were of ungraded milks. The number found unsatisfactory was eighteen, samples of designated milk and two of ungraded milk.

### Milk in Schools.

Under this Scheme Pasteurised milk is supplied to school-children in bottles containing a third of a pint at a charge of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bottle. During the year 789,790 bottles were supplied ; including 62,788 bottles which were supplied free by the Education Committee to necessitous children.

### Supervision of Meat Supply.

Owing to the closure of the Public Abattoir on 30th June, 1939, and also to the fact that all fresh meat, including pork, is allocated to Retail Butchers direct from the Government Slaughterhouse, situated at Tranmere, Birkenhead, all home-killed meat consumed in Wallasey is now brought into the Borough dead.

The number of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir from January 1st to June 30th, 1939, was as follows :—

Bullocks, cows and heifers	109	Sheep and lambs	...	607
Calves	...	Pigs	...	480

During the year the following meat, including pork, was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption and was destroyed :—

<i>Tuberculosis.</i>				<i>Other Causes.</i>			
Meat	...	...	4592 lbs.	Meat	...	...	1,456 lbs.
Offal	...	...	703 lbs.	Offal	...	...	491 lbs.

(NOTE.—The above figures include the diseased flesh and offals of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir, Wallasey and the Wallasey and Alfred Lairages).

Total number of visits to Butchers and other shops—1,242.

### WALLASEY AND ALFRED LAIRAGES.

#### Landing Place for Irish and Isle of Man Animals and Foreign Animals Wharf.

The emergency slaughter of cattle only is carried on at these premises and during the year 26 animals were slaughtered for emergency reasons. A routine post-mortem inspection was made in each case, which resulted in six carcasses, including all internal organs, being destroyed, as unfit for human consumption.

### Administration of Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders.

During the year five suspected cases of Swine Fever were reported. In one case the result of the post-mortem examination proved positive, and the outbreak was subsequently confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Four cow keepers in the Borough experienced visible infestation by the warble fly maggot in their stock, there being ten beasts involved. The necessary action was taken by the owners in each case.

Visits to farms, piggeries and other premises—289.

### Mussel and Cockle Beds, Wallasey Foreshore.

The Liverpool Port Health Authority in February, 1939, made an Order under the Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations of 1934, prohibiting the taking for sale for human consumption, cockles and mussels from the layings contained in the "prescribed area."

(NOTE.—The "prescribed area" means the foreshore of the River Mersey between the Red Noses at New Brighton and the westward end of Leasowe Embankment in the County of Cheshire).

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

#### WORK OF THE DISTRICT INSPECTORS.

No. of houses visited	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,347
Special complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,314
No. of defects discovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	28,842
Interviews, appointments, supervisional visits and revisits							276
Matters dealt with from and to other departments	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,117
Information laid	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Magistrates orders obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cases withdrawn on payment of costs or dismissed under the							
Probation of Offenders Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Fines, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£6 11s. 6d.

#### ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

No. of Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,502
Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,336

#### DRAIN RECONSTRUCTION AND TESTS.

Drains reconstructed or partially reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Drain tests by smoke or water	...	...	...	...	...	...	127

#### FLUSHING.

The Local Authority voluntarily flush the drains of all houses in the Borough. During the past year the drains of 25,171 houses were flushed. In addition, the drains at 238 schools, public buildings, etc., were also flushed.

#### BYELAWS WITH RESPECT TO NUISANCES, ETC.

No. of inspections and reinspections of stable yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Visits to Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
,, encampments	...	...	...	...	...	...	467
Tents inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,399
Sub-let houses visited	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Rooms inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	698
Infringements	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	15



## CANAL BOAT INSPECTION.

Canal boats inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Infringements	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

## PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Visits to schools, theatres, picturedromes and Public conveniences	72
--	----

## ICE CREAM PREMISES.

No. of visits to Ice Cream premises	...	...	...	...	9
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

## DISINFESTATION.

Houses infested with vermin	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	28

## RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911-1928.

Premises visited where Rag Flock is used	...	...	...	12
--	-----	-----	-----	----

## SMOKE NUISANCES.

No. of observations taken	...	...	...	...	22
Interviews and notices served	...	...	...	...	3

## FACTORY INSPECTION.

No. of visits to Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	383
„ notices served for contraventions	...	...	...	40
„ defects discovered and remedied	...	...	...	49
„ Factories on register	...	...	...	434
„ Workplaces	„	...	...	145
„ Visits to Outworkers	...	...	...	6

## BAKEHOUSES.

No. of Bakehouses on register	...	...	...	...	87
Visits	...	...	...	...	165
Contraventions discovered	...	...	...	...	25
Notices served	...	...	...	...	25

## SHOP HOURS ACTS, 1912-1936.

No. of cases pending 1 January, 1939	...	...	...	2
Contraventions discovered	...	...	...	46
Convictions obtained	...	...	...	20
Cases dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act	...	...	...	4
Cases pending, 31 December, 1939	...	...	...	5
Warnings issued	...	...	...	19
Fines and Costs	...	...	...	£6 10s. 0d.

## RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.  
(Including RAT WEEK)

Complaints received	...	189	Mice found dead or caught	...	48
Visits and re-visits	...	4520	No. of Manholes inspected	...	902
Notices served	...	20	„ „ treated	...	664
Traps set	...	250	„ „ revisited	...	700
Baits laid	...	8553	Income for services of Rat-		
Baits consumed	...	6070	catcher	...	£13 15 0
Rats caught	...	1207			



COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.



Annual Report

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1939.

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## STAFF.

RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
*Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.*  
W. WRIGLEY STACEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.*

DORIS S. WILLIAMS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
*Assistant Medical Officer to the 3/2/1939.*

ELSIE J. D. SCOTT, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.,  
*Assistant Medical Officer from the 6/2/39.*

C. JOINSON LUYA, L.D.S.  
*School Dental Surgeon.*

W. A. HENDERSON, L.D.S.

E. G. MASON, L.D.S.

*Assistant School Dental Surgeons.*

Miss E. W. NICHOLLS (*Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute*).

Mrs. B. CHAPPELLE (*Trained Nurse*).

*School Nurses.*

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Miss R. M. QUINTON (*Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute*).

Miss L. VANCE (*State Certified Midwife, and State Registered Nurse*).

Miss I. E. FOX (*Certificates General Nursing, Health Visitor, etc.*)  
(to 30/9/39.)

Miss R. HOWARTH (*Certificates General Nursing, Health Visitor, etc.*)  
(to 30/9/39.)

Miss A. D. CHANDLER (*State Certified Midwife and State Registered Nurse*)  
(from 18/10/39).

Miss B. JACKSON (*State Certified Midwife, and State Registered Nurse*)  
(from 6/11/39).

*Combined duties of School Nurse and Health Visitor.*

---

Miss M. OGLE,

(*Certificates Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics, Diploma Liverpool University in Massage, etc.*)  
*Masseuse.*

H. R. BICKERTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
(*Eyes*).

R. J. MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O.  
(*Tonsils and Adenoids*).

T. HARTLEY MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B. (*Orthopaedic Surgeon*).  
*Visiting Specialists.*

G. E. HUGHES, Education Office (*Secondary Schools*).

R. L. BASCOMBE, Education Office (*Elementary Schools*).  
*Clerical Assistants.*

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## ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

The number on roll on the 31st August, 1939, at the Council Schools was 8,301 and in the non-provided Schools 1,658 or a total of 9,959.

## HIGHER EDUCATION.

NAME	ON ROLL (31/12/39)
WALLASEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL .....	679
WALLASEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS .....	431
OLDERSHAW GRAMMAR SCHOOL.....	311
OLDERSHAW HIGH SCHOOL .....	307
	<hr/>
	1,728
	<hr/>
MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL (Medical Inspection by arrangement) .....	181
	<hr/>



*Town Hall,*

*Wallasey.*

*April, 1940.*

*To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS  
of the EDUCATION COMMITTEE.*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*The work of the School Medical Department is presented in the usual way and it will be seen that despite the upheaval of war conditions and the evacuation of 2,551 children of school age from the southern part of the town, with closure of schools, it was possible to carry on the work in a fairly satisfactory manner. The whole of the staff were available for normal duties, and when possible, assistance was given in the Reception Area, which was so near as to make this possible.*

*As will be seen from the report, a considerable amount of dental work was done for the evacuated children, and Miss Ogle, who is in charge of massage and remedial exercises, resided for a time at Rigby House, Parkgate, to which children from Ellera Park Special School had been sent and which was also used to accommodate a small number of difficult children. Dr. Stacey visited this house on several occasions.*

*At the outbreak of war the Health Committee had recommended the acceptance of a tender for the erection of a central Health Centre on the Mill Lane site, but this recommendation was withdrawn at the Council meeting as a state of war had intervened. This Centre, in addition to a new Health Department, comprised new Clinics for School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare Services, and it is very regrettable that the project had to be abandoned for the time being, so the clinics must, in both cases, continue to be carried out in buildings quite unsuitable for the purpose and in a condition to which the term dilapidated might almost be applied. Further, the proper supervision of both these important services is not possible so long as the clinics are away from the administrative headquarters, nor is it possible to bring about the full co-ordination of the two departments which is so desirable in the interests of efficiency.*

*Mr. Luya in his report refers to the appointment of an additional Dental Surgeon, and I fully endorse his plea for the provision of a dental clinic in the New Brighton area. This suggestion has been made on previous occasions.*

*The Clinic at Moreton was taken over in September for Civil Defence purposes and has since been used as a Mobile Unit and First Aid Party Depot. The Public Assistance Committee kindly permitted*

*us to use part of their premises for clinic purposes, but if proposals now submitted to the Emergency Committee are finally approved, the clinics should shortly revert to their original use.*

*I should like to refer to the good work carried out by the staff during the year, particularly during the trying and difficult times of the latter four months ; to the co-operation and assistance of the Director of Education and his staff, and to the work done by Inspector Mason, of the N.S.P.C.C., who is always ready to help when asked to do so. As always, the Head Teachers have been of great assistance and the members of the Committee have always dealt very sympathetically with any suggestions made.*

*I am,*

*Your obedient Servant,*

*RONALD B. BERRY,*

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## GENERAL.

### MEDICAL TREATMENT.

#### Cleanliness.

The School Nurses have continuously examined the children of each department in every school during the year, and those children who have been in an unsatisfactory condition have been given special attention. They have made in all 16,876 examinations on 10,684 individual children. There were 97 cleansing surveys, the result being that 542 children were found with unclean heads or bodies. 208 routine visits and 262 special visits were paid to the schools. 53 children with unclean heads were found at the cleansing surveys and excluded from school.

1,730 visits to the homes of the children were made and 34 cases of neglect were reported to the N.S.P.C.C.

#### MINOR AILMENTS.

The number of children who received treatment at the Clinics was 1,361 (769 at the Church Street Clinic, and 592 at the Moreton Clinic). The number treated otherwise than under the Local Education Authority scheme was 92. This does not include children treated privately from the Secondary Schools. The chief ailments met with were Impetigo 167, Sores 464, other Skin Conditions 97, Minor Injuries 261, Eye Diseases 125, and Ear Diseases 101. During the year there were 3 cases of Ringworm (Scalp), 18 cases of Ringworm (Body), and 23 cases of Scabies.

The number of dressings was 5,149 (2,182 at the Church Street Clinic and 2,967 at the Moreton Clinic).

#### EYES.

During the year 385 children attended the eye clinics, making 618 attendances. 329 were provided with spectacles.

In 32 cases spectacles were not needed. In 2 cases treatment was not completed at the end of the year, and in 22 cases no change of lenses was considered necessary. 6 operations for Strabismus were performed at the Hahnemann's Hospital, Liverpool. and 3 cases of suspected Trachoma were treated.

#### TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

During the year 127 operations were performed at the Victoria Central Hospital under the Local Education Authority's scheme. 101 operations were for Tonsils and Adenoids. 15 for Tonsils only and 11 for Adenoids.

The school nurses visit the homes of the children on their return from Hospital and advise the parents to allow the children to attend the Remedial Exercise Clinic to aid in the establishing of correct breathing.

The ages of the children were :—

Age (years) ...	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Boys ... ..	13	11	14	11	4	4	5	—	1	2	65
Girls ... ..	12	11	10	6	6	8	2	4	2	1	62
Totals ... ..	25	22	24	17	10	12	7	4	3	3	127

### NUTRITION.

Recommendations in respect of the granting of free meals and/or milk totalled 181 cases, the numbers finally approved as complying with the medical and financial conditions being 58 recommended for free milk, 72 for free dinners and 24 for both milk and dinners.

#### Provision of Meals.

The number of meals (dinners) supplied free of cost for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1939, was 26,601.

Average cost per meal for period of 12 months ending 31st March, 1939.

Food only—4.0d.

Total Expenses—8.5d.

The largest number on the Feeding Registers at any one time was in July—195.

There is a Supervisor in charge of the arrangements at the feeding centres.

#### Supply of Milk.

During the year 789,790 bottles of milk containing one-third of a pint each were supplied to the schools. Of this total, the number supplied FREE to school children over the same period, excluding Ellera Park Special School, was 62,788. At the end of the year (December, 1939) there were 238 receiving free milk, but the largest number for any one month taken separately was 468 in June.

**REPORT OF DR. T. HARTLEY MARTIN,**  
**Orthopaedic Surgeon.**

16 sessions have been held, at **Church Street Clinic**, at which 72 New Cases have been seen and 391 Re-examinations made (an average of 29 cases per session).

These cases are further elaborated as follows :

			<i>In relation to School age.</i>		
			Under	Of	Over
<i>New Cases.</i>					
Non-Tuberculous	..	..	36	36	—
Tuberculous	..	..	—	—	—
<i>Re-examinations.</i>					
Non-Tuberculous	..	..	130	233	16
Tuberculous	..	..	—	12	—

In Table I (appended) the cases are shown classified in age groups and disease categories ; the number of cases discharged is also shown, with the reason for discharge.

Of the 252 cases which have been on the Clinic register during the past year, 15 or 5.9% have been admitted to the Children's Hospital, Leasowe, for treatment.

These cases were as follows :—

<i>Infantile Paralysis</i>	3 cases.	Stay in hospital 436 days.
<i>Rickets</i>	8 cases.	Stay in hospital 742 days.
<i>Non-Tuberculous Osteitis</i>	1 case.	Stay in hospital 444 days.
<i>Congenital Deformities</i>	3 cases.	Stay in hospital 440 days.

The total number of days spent in hospital was 2,062 (73.5% being devoted to children of school age) which is equivalent to 5.6 beds being occupied throughout the year.

Of the 15 cases, 8 or 53.3% only were of school age.

The work of the Massage and Remedial Exercises Department is of the greatest value in preventive and curative work.

During the past twelve months 3,124 treatments have been given to 99 cases on the register. 31 New Cases were admitted and 24 discharged.

Table 2 shows the cases analysed in age and disease groups, and also shows the relative amount of work devoted to children of school and pre-school age.



Prior to the outbreak of war, the work of the Clinic was increasing, and but for the war the numbers for the whole year would have shown a marked increase. It is felt that if the work of the Clinic continues to increase more time should be given to it by the Surgeon and the After-Care Nurse ; extra help may be needed by the Masseuse, and also some clerical assistance be made available, in order that the Clinic may continue to run smoothly.

Visits by Surgeon	..	..	..	..	..	16
Attendances by Orthopaedic Sister	..	..	..	..	..	60
New Cases Examined	..	..	..	..	..	72
Re-examinations..	..	..	..	..	..	391

#### Analysis of Cases.

	<i>Under School</i>		<i>Of School</i>		<i>Over School</i>	
	<i>Age.</i>		<i>Age.</i>		<i>Age.</i>	
	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
<hr/>						
<i>New Cases.</i>						
Non-Tuberculous ..	20	16	16	20	—	—
<hr/>						
Tuberculous .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
<hr/>						
<i>Re-examinations.</i>						
Non-Tuberculous ..	65	65	111	122	3	13
<hr/>						
Tuberculous .. ..	—	—	4	8	—	—
<hr/>						

#### Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.

			<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Number of Patients Treated	...	...	49	50	99
Do. Attendances of Cases	...	...	1761	1363	3124
Do. New Cases Referred for Treatment	...	...	13	18	31
Do. Cases in which the Treatment has been Terminated	...	...	14	10	24

Six bi-monthly clinics have been held, at **Oakenholt Road Clinic**, at which 32 new cases were seen and 126 re-examinations were made.

In greater detail these cases are :—

			<i>In relation to school age.</i>		
<i>New Cases.</i>			<i>Under</i>	<i>Of</i>	<i>Over</i>
Non-Tuberculous	..	..	14	16	—
Tuberculous	..	..	1	1	—

*Re-examinations.*

Non-Tuberculous	..	..	45	61	—
Tuberculous	..	..	1	17	2

Table 1 shows the cases arranged in disease categories and age groups. The number of cases discharged and the reasons for discharge are also given.

Of the 73 Non-Tuberculous Cases on the register not one has been admitted to Hospital.

The Massage and Remedial Exercise work is still undertaken at the Leasowe Hospital. 53 treatments have been given to 4 cases.

It is felt that if the Massage services could be given at the Clinic, a greater number of children would attend more regularly for treatment.

Visits by Surgeon	..	..	..	..	..	6
Attendances by Orthopaedic Sister	..	..	..	..	..	11
New Cases Examined	..	..	..	..	..	32
Re-examinations	..	..	..	..	..	126

**Analysis of Cases.**

	<i>Under School</i>		<i>Of School</i>		<i>Over School</i>	
	<i>Age.</i>		<i>Age.</i>		<i>Age.</i>	
	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
New Cases—Non-Tuberculous ..	7	7	10	6	—	—
Tuberculous ..	—	1	—	1	—	—
Re-examinations—Non-Tuberculous	23	22	34	27	—	—
Tuberculous ..	—	1	5	12	—	2

**Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.**

		Boys	Girls	Total
Number of Patients Treated	...	3	1	4
do. Attendances of Cases	...	38	15	53
do. New Cases Referred for Treatment	...	1	—	1
do. Cases in which the Treatment has been Terminated		3	1	4

Church Street Clinic.

TABLE 1.

Disease Categories.	Remaining			New cases			Remaining			Discharged, 1939.						
	1938.			1939.			1939.			Cured.	Relieved.	Over Age— Relieved.	Left District.	Refused Treatment.	Unsuitable	Died.
	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over							
Infantile Paralysis...	—	5	1	—	4	—	—	7	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
Spastic Paralysis ...	1	19	—	1	—	—	1	13	2	—	—	3	2	—	—	—
Rickets ... ..	11	2	—	2	—	—	7	3	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
Tuber- { Osteitis &	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
eulous { Arthritis	—	8	1	—	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Tubercul's do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deformities—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital... ..	11	22	—	4	5	—	9	24	1	6	—	—	2	—	—	—
Deformities—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acquired ... ..	23	42	—	22	15	—	30	42	—	22	—	—	2	4	1	1
Tonsils & Adenoids	—	21	—	—	54	—	—	17	—	58	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diagnosis ... ..	7	1	—	7	12	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	18	—
Totals ... ..	53	125	2	36	90	—	54	115	8	89	—	5	10	5	19	1

MESSAGE RETURN.

TABLE 2.

Disease Categories.	Attendances.								Cases.				
	Of School age.						Under School Age.		Over School Age.		Number of cases.	% of total cases.	
	Boys			Girls			Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls			
	Attending School.	Not attending School	Attending Special School.	Attending School.	Not attending School.	Attending Special School.							
Infantile Paralysis .. .. .	24	—	—	131	—	—	76	—	—	—	8	8	%
Spastic Paralysis .. .. .	300	—	—	203	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	12	%
Rickets .. .. .	30	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	%
T.B.—Osteitis and Arthritis ..	—	—	—	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	%
Non-T.B.— Do. .. .. .	29	—	—	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	%
Congenital Deformities .. ..	388	—	—	135	—	—	179	131	—	—	26	26	%
Acquired Deformities .. ..	711	—	—	591	—	—	24	60	—	—	46	46	%
Totals .. .. .	1482	—	—	1172	—	—	279	191	—	—	99	—	—
Totals .. .. .	2654						470						
Percentages .. ..	84.7%						15.3%						



## Moreton Clinic.

TABLE 1.

Disease Categories.	Remaining			New Cases			Remaining			Discharged, 1939.						
	1938.			1939.			1939.			Cured	Relieved.	Over age— relieved.	Left District.	Refused Treatment.	Unsuitable.	Died.
	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over							
Infantile Paralysis	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Spastic Paralysis ..	2	5	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
Wickets .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuber- { Osteitis &	—	7	—	1	1	—	1	6	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
culous { Arthritis ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Tuberculous do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deformities—																
Congenital .. ..	10	5	—	2	3	—	9	7	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
Deformities—																
Acquired .. ..	6	10	—	9	6	—	12	10	—	7	—	—	—	2	—	—
Diagnosis .. ..	2	—	—	3	6	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	—
Totals .. ..	20	30	—	15	17	—	26	29	—	9	—	2	5	3	8	—

## PASSAGE RETURN.

TABLE 2.

Disease Categories.	Attendances.								Cases.				
	Of School Age.						Under School Age.		Number of cases.	% of total cases.			
	Boys			Girls									
	Attending School.	Not attending School.	Attending Special School.	Attending School.	Not attending School.	Attending Special School.	Boys.	Girls.			Boys.	Girls.	
Infantile Paralysis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spastic Paralysis .. .. .	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	25 %
Wickets .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.B.—Osteitis and Arthritis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-T.B.—do. .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Deformities .. .. .	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	25 %
Acquired Deformities .. .. .	—	—	—	15	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	50 %
Totals .. .. .	35	—	—	15	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	4	—
Totals .. .. .	50						3						
Percentages .. .. .	94.3%						5.7 %						

## **REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE REMEDIAL SPEECH CLASSES.**

In January, 1939, there were 42 children attending the Remedial Speech Classes.

of these 23 were stammering cases.

2 were cleft palate cases.

8 were very backward readers, showing some degree of word blindness.

9 were faulty articulation cases.

When the classes were re-arranged after the summer holidays, 23 of these cases remained in attendance, and 9 new cases were admitted.

On the outbreak of the war the classes were suspended. They were re-opened in October. Twenty-three children have attended voluntarily between October 1939 and January 1940.

To balance the drop in numbers, a centre was opened in Moreton in December 1939. The names of 40 children needing remedial speech training were submitted from the schools. From these, 16 cases (9 stammerers, 6 defects of articulation) were selected.

### **Discharged Cases, 1939-1940.**

7 cases were discharged with normal speech (3 stammerers, 2 articulation cases, 2 word-blind cases).

6 cases were discharged as much improved.

1 case was transferred to the Child Guidance Clinic, Liverpool.

1 case was withdrawn at the request of the parents.

2 cases were discharged as unable to benefit from treatment.

9 cases ceased attendance owing to evacuation.

### **Backward Children in Normal Classes.**

It has been noticed that three backward children (1 stammerer, 2 with very retarded speech) have shown an astonishing improvement in speech and relaxation since the war released them from school routine. In school these children work with their age-groups. The marked lessening of hypertension apparently corresponds to the removal of the necessity to compete with a standard that is beyond their capacity.

It has also been noted during the last two years that only a small percentage of the children admitted as unable to read are true cases of word-blindness. The children are usually backward, with poor speech, and lacking in aural and visual perception. Ordinary speech training is a necessary preliminary. The child cannot read until it has a clear idea of the actual sounds of speech. These children cannot follow an ordinary school lesson but respond



almost normally to teaching that is within their capacity to grasp. The true word-blind child has normal intelligence and normal vision, but retains no visual images of letters, *i.e.*, appears not to see them.

#### Special Class for Dull and Backward Children at Poulton School.

<i>No. on Register January, 1939.</i>	<i>No. Admitted during year.</i>	<i>No. Transferred during year.</i>	<i>No. Left during year.</i>	<i>No. On Register Dec. 1939.</i>
19	6	4	3	18

The four cases transferred all returned to the Elementary Schools, having made good progress.

Two children left over age and one child left the district.

#### Elleray Park Special School.

No. of children on the Register, January 1st, 1939 :—

Boys 39.                  Girls 35.                  Total 74.

Removed from the Register during the year :—

Malnutrition 12.    Bronchiectasis 1.    Infantile Paralysis 1.

Of these :—                  1 attained the age of 16 years.  
                                     12 returned to the Elementary Schools.  
                                     1 went to Hospital.

Admitted during the year :—13.

No. of children on the Register, December 31st, 1939 :—

Boys 38.                  Girls 35.                  Total 73.

Classified as follows :—

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
Spastic Paralysis ... ..	5	3
Asthma .. ..	6	2
Congenital Heart .. ..	2	1
Valvular Disease Heart ..	5	6
Rheumatism .. ..	2	1
Chorea .. ..	2	3
Bronchitis .. ..	1	0
Tuberculosis Spine ..	0	4
Peritoneum ..	1	1
Hip Disease .. ..	1	0
Malnutrition .. ..	12	13
Nephritis ... ..	0	1
Defective Bone Formation	1	0

During the year the School was inspected 12 times and additional to General Surveys 71 children had a full medical examination.

### Children medically examined for Employment Cards, 1939.

Delivering Newspapers, 225 ; Delivering Milk, 9. Total 234.

(Children who are employed **after school hours only**, are not medically examined, Entertainment Licences excepted).

Children medically examined for Entertainment Licences  
Total 11.

### Medical Record Cards.

The number of applications received during 1939 from Medical Practitioners, under the National Health Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act, 1937, for confidential information to be obtained from the School Medical Records, totalled 23.

Of this number, information respecting 10 boys and 12 girls was returned.

In the remaining case no information was available.

### LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

The School Medical Officer is indebted to the Honorary Chief Psychiatrist for his report on the Wallasey cases dealt with during 1939, and of which the following is a brief summary :—

New Cases 14.	Referred by Probation Officer	...	1
	„ Hospitals	... ..	3
	„ Parents (2 on advice of		
	Doctors	... ..	3
	„ Head Teacher	... ..	1
	„ M.O.H.	... ..	1
	„ Family Doctor	... ..	1
	„ Billeting Officer	... ..	4

In addition 4 cases were carried forward from 1938.

The conditions for which advice was sought were as follows :—

		<i>Unsatisfactory</i> <i>Stammering Behaviour,</i>	<i>Nervous</i>	<i>Backwardness</i>
			<i>Behaviour</i>	
New Cases ..	—	6	4	4
Old Cases ..	2	2	—	—

The great majority of the 14 cases referred during the year have already been satisfactorily and finally dealt with, either at the Clinic itself, or by recommendation to other appropriate sources for treatment.

The remainder still under treatment and including the 4 cases carried forward from 1938, are all reported to be shewing improvement in varying degrees.



### REPORT OF SENIOR SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.

The year's work started under very favourable circumstances : the staff was increased by the addition of one full-time dental officer and one full-time nurse-attendant, and plans were being arranged to move into the new clinic shortly to be commenced. A branch clinic in the New Brighton area was also being considered with a view to making access to the dental services easier for children living in that area.

The outbreak of war spoilt most of these plans, and it is understood that the old premises in Church Street will have to continue to serve for a few years longer : at the same time, some sort of temporary clinic in New Brighton is still needed, if only to avoid bringing children down towards the Seacombe area. The immediate effect of the outbreak of war was to paralyse the dental clinic for a time, although the attendance of patients never completely ceased : as the public recovered from the first shock those parents who attend regularly continued to do so, but as the schools were closed it was impossible to do dental examinations to provide new cases. This difficulty was overcome by going through the school registers and sending for children to come to the clinic for dental examination. The response was surprisingly good, and it has since become possible to work in a manner more nearly approaching normal.

It became necessary to do something for those children who were in the evacuation area, and for this purpose a portable dental equipment was got together, although it was not considered advisable to spend too much money in view of the general uncertainty : a portable dental chair had to be bought, a portable dental engine was borrowed and surplus instruments from the clinic were used. This outfit was put in a car and the schools in the evacuation area visited in turn. The first few weeks were devoted to dealing with all the toothache cases, and it was rare for the dentist to arrive at a school when his services were not eagerly awaited. Operations were performed anywhere that there was space to put down a dental chair : the most amusing was in a kitchen with washing on the line and cooking going on next door. A routine was devised as time went on, and gradually there was less tooth extraction to cure toothache and more examination and conservative treatment. Now, each school in the area is visited at least once a month, and the acceptance of treatment is surprisingly good : there seems no doubt that in this type of work in a county area the poor working conditions are compensated for by a more personal feeling between dentist and patient. Everyone was very helpful, and special thanks are due to the head teachers, not forgetting the Heads of Cheshire Schools who allowed the Wallasey dental staff to use their premises whilst their own children were in session.

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Particulars of work carried out during 1939 by the School Dentist for Wallasey children in the reception areas to which they have been evacuated.

Number of children inspected	...	...	...	715
„ „ selected for treatment	...	...	...	257
„ „ treated	...	...	...	230
„ temporary teeth extracted	...	...	...	216
„ permanent „ „	...	...	...	61
„ temporary „ filled	...	...	...	Nil
„ permanent „ „	...	...	...	35
„ other operations	...	...	...	9

### REPORT ON PHYSICAL TRAINING, 1939.

During the first six months of 1939 the Schools of the Borough accomplished some good work, and the standard was being steadily raised. In addition, as a result of a stimulating visit in December 1938 by two representatives of the Central Council of Recreative Physical Training, Keep Fit classes for adults were becoming more popular, and the numbers of existing classes were increased.

During the spring the Organisers of Physical Training, with the close co-operation of the Central Council of Recreative Physical Training and the Wirral Physical Training Association were responsible for two courses for Leaders of Recreative Physical Training. The two courses—one for men and one for women—took place over a period of ten weeks, and each class had over fifty names on the register. Most of the members expressed a desire for further courses, which is an indication that there should be no shortage of leaders as the demand increases.

Apart from the ordinary routine work in Schools, some weeks were spent in the organisation of a Physical Training Display, intended for the opening of the extension of the New Brighton Promenade. This programme was to include representative work by adults, and boys and girls of the Secondary and Elementary Schools of the Borough. The international situation however was already becoming acute, and finally all preparations had to be cancelled. As much time had been given to the organisation for this display the Education Committee decided to permit an informal programme to be carried out on Empire Day, which was considered to be a suitable occasion. Girls of the Secondary and Elementary Schools supported by an adult Keep Fit class provided interesting items of Physical Training, Dancing and Games. The Display was held in the grounds of the Oldershaw School, and in spite of the minimum of advertising and a bitterly cold evening over 2,000 spectators made up a most appreciative audience. The teachers and children must have been well compensated by previous disappointments, and hard work which had helped to produce such a



creditable performance. Swimming continued with the usual enthusiasm, the style being improved in spite of the difficulties attending large classes. The latter is unavoidable so long as there is only one indoor bath in the borough.

The new Playing Fields at Leasowe-Road and Withens Lane should have been in use by the Spring of 1940, but unfortunately for the schools which have experienced for so long the need of Playing Fields, these have been taken over by the military or in connection with national needs.

Since the outbreak of war, activities have been much curtailed. Evacuation, the closing of schools, and the difficulties of the black-out, brought nearly everything to a standstill during the latter half of 1939. Gradually the schools re-opened, but in many cases playgrounds and halls situated on the first floor of buildings could not be used. In spite of difficulties (accentuated by the entry of Mr. Patterson into H.M. Forces) the teachers made valiant efforts to give enjoyment and exercise to small groups of non-evacuated children, in the parks and grounds still available. As the schools re-open with Air Raid Shelter accommodation it should be possible to make adjustments that will enable the work to be carried on with much of the efficiency and respect for standard that existed before the war.

## WALLASEY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

# MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1939.

## Elementary Schools.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections	...	...	...	...	157
Entrants	...	...	...	...	1037
Intermediates	...	...	...	...	1119
Leavers	...	...	...	...	819
Total				...	2975

Number of other Routine Inspections ... .. —

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections—Boys	...	...	244	
„ „ „ „ Girls	...	...	250	
			—	*494
Number of Re-inspections	...	...	...	1164
		Total	..	1658

\* Does not include employment cases.

### (C) NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

(Excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group.	Number of Children.			Total Number of Children found to require treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require treatment.		
		For Defec- tive vision (excluding squint.)	For all other conditions recorded in Table IIA.	
<b>Code Groups—</b>				
Entrants ... ..	1037	2	77	79
Intermediates ... ..	1119	58	93	146
Leavers ... ..	819	56	54	107
Total (Code Groups)	2975	116	224	332
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—

P.S.—The printing of Tables II (A), Elementary and Secondary; II (C) Elementary; III, Elementary, and the Vaccination Tables, is discontinued at present.



TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year  
in the Routine Age-Groups.

## ROUTINE AGE-GROUP INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups.	Number of Children Ins- pected.	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly) Sub- normal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Admissions.. ..	1037	188	18.1	832	80.3	17	1.6	—	—
Intermediates ..	1119	159	14.2	925	82.7	34	3.0	1	.1
Leavers.. ..	819	119	14.6	641	78.3	58	7.0	1	.1
Other Routine Inspections ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	2975	466	15.7	2398	80.6	109	3.6	2	.1

The number of Parents present at the Routine Medical Inspection for  
1939 was 2,270.

TABLE IV.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN  
DURING 1939.

Group I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.  
(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group VI.)

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects Treated.		
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
<b>Skin—</b>			
Ringworm—Scalp ... ..	3 (*)	—	3
Body ... ..	18	—	18
Scabies ... ..	22	1	23
Impetigo ... ..	164	3	167
Other Skin Diseases ... ..	93	4	97
<b>Minor Eye Defects</b> (External & other)	120	5	125
<b>Minor Ear Defects</b> (Otorrhoea) ...	96	5	101
<b>Miscellaneous</b> ... ..	845	74	919
Total ...	1361	92	1453

\* No X Ray cases as shewn in brackets.

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).  
Errors of Refraction (including squint)—

No. of Defects dealt with—						
Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	357		
Otherwise	...	...	...	4		
					—	361
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)—						
Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	3		
By Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	—		
Otherwise	...	...	...	—		
					—	3
						364



No. of children for whom spectacles were—

Prescribed—

Under the Authority's Scheme ... ..	325
Otherwise ... ..	4

Obtained—

Under the Authority's Scheme ... ..	325
Otherwise ... ..	4

### Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received Operative Treatment—

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital ... ..	15	11	101	—
By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	15	11	101	—

Received other forms of Treatment ... ..	—
Total number treated ... ..	127

- (i) Tonsils only.    (ii) Adenoids only.    (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.  
 (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

### Group IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	Under the Authority's Scheme. (1)			Otherwise. (2)			Total number treated.
	Residen- tial treat- ment with educa- tion  (i)	Residen- tial treat- ment without educa- tion  (ii)	Non- residen- tial treat- ment at an ortho- paedic Clinic (iii)	Residen- tial treat- ment with educa- tion  (i)	Residen- tial treat- ment without educa- tion  (ii)	Non- residen- tial treat- ment at an ortho- paedic Clinic (iii)	
Number of children treated ...	7	—	121	—	—	—	128

TABLE V.

Group IV.—TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.  
NUMBER OF CHILDREN DEALT WITH DURING 1939.

Inspected by Dentist—

Routine Age Groups.	{	Age 5 years	...	...	...	140	}	Total	5538
		„ 6 „	...	...	...	310			
		„ 7 „	...	...	...	599			
		„ 8 „	...	...	...	726			
		„ 9 „	...	...	...	688			
		„ 10 „	...	...	...	788			
		„ 11 „	...	...	...	644			
		„ 12 „	...	...	...	537			
		„ 13 „	...	...	...	420			
		„ 14 „	...	...	...	423			
		„ 15 „	...	...	...	205			
		„ 16 „	and over	...	...	58			
*Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1345	
Grand Total								...	6883
Referred for Treatment		...	...	...	...	4043			
*Specials		...	...	...	...	1345			
							—	5388	
Actually Treated		...	...	...	...	2673			
*Specials		...	...	...	...	1345			
							—	4018	

\* Includes 296 cases from the Secondary Schools.



TABLE V.—Continued.

**PARTICULARS OF TIME GIVEN AND OF OPERATIONS  
UNDERTAKEN.**

SCHOOL DENTIST'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Number of half-days devoted to Inspection	...	51	
Number of half-days devoted to Treatment...	...	1443	
		—	
Total	...	1494	
		—	
Total number of attendances made by children for treatment	... ..	7904	† (296)
Number of Permanent Teeth—			
Extracted	... ..	1632	(115)
Filled	... ..	2970	(321)
Number of Temporary Teeth—			
Extracted	... ..	3589	(13)
Filled	... ..	48	(—)
Total number of Fillings	... ..	3018	(321)
Total number of Extractions	... ..	5221	(128)
*Number of administrations of general anaesthetics	...	2618	(89)
Number of Other Operations—			
Permanent	... ..	760	(81)
Temporary	... ..	—	(—)

\*Nitrous Oxide.

† Figures in brackets denote Secondary School Statistics included  
in first total.

TABLE VI.  
UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

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(1)	Average number of Visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	...	5.1
(2)	Total number of Examinations of Children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	16,876
(3)	Number of individual children found unclean				...	542
(4)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Education Authority		...	...	...	—
(5)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—					
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921		...	...		—
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws		...	...		—



# MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1939.

## Secondary Schools.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Age Group Inspections ... .. 51

Age Groups.				Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants	Under 12	...	...	143	127	270
Intermediates	12	...	...	137	177	} 816
	13	...	...	147	106	
	14	...	...	127	122	
Leavers	— 15	...	...	57	65	} 337
	Over 15	...	...	136	79	
Totals	...	...	...	747	676	1423

Number of other Routine Inspections ... .. --

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	77
					---
Total	...	...	...	...	84
					---

TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age-Groups.

## ROUTINE AGE-GROUP INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly Sub-normal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Admissions .. ..	270	62	23.0	198	73.3	10	3.7	—	—
Intermediates .. ..	816	221	27.0	546	67.0	49	6.0	—	—
Leavers .. .. .	337	116	34.4	213	63.2	8	2.4	—	—
Other Routine Inspections .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	1423	399	28.0	957	67.3	67	4.7	—	—

TABLE II.—Continued.

(C) NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

(Excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group.	Number of Children.			Total Number of Children found to require treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require treatment.		
		For Defec- tive vision (excluding squint).	For all other conditions recorded in Table II A.	
Entrants ... ..	270	22	8	29
Intermediates ... ..	816	49	26	74
Leavers ... ..	337	22	14	35
Total ... ..	1423	93	48	138
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—

Table III.

## RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN.

Table III. in Elementary School Statistics covers the area, but is discontinued at present.

## SECONDARY SCHOOLS.—TABLE IV.

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER, 1939.

## Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness).

Defect or Disease.	Number of Pupils Treated.		
	Under L.E.A.'s Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
<b>Skin—</b>			
Ringworm—Head .. .. .	—	—	—
Body .. .. .	—	—	—
Scabies .. .. .	1	—	1
Impetigo .. .. .	—	—	—
Minor Injuries .. .. .	—	—	—
Other Skin Diseases .. .. .	—	1	1
<b>Eye—</b>			
External and other .. .. .	2	—	2
<b>Ear—</b>			
Otitis Media, etc. .. .. .	—	—	—
<b>Miscellaneous</b> .. .. .	—	6	6
Total	3	7	10

## Group II.—Treatment of Visual Defects.

## Submitted to Refraction—

Under Local Education Authority's Scheme ..	28	
Otherwise .. .. .	24	
	—	52

For whom Glasses (a) Under L.E.A.'s Scheme ..	26	
were prescribed (b) Otherwise .. .. .	24	
	—	50

For whom Glasses (a) Under L.E.A.'s Scheme ..	26	
were provided (b) Otherwise .. .. .	24	
	—	50

## Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

## Received Operative Treatment—

Under Local Education Authority's Scheme ..	—	
By Private Practitioner or Hospital .. .. .	—	
	—	—

Received other forms of Treatment .. .. .	—	—
---	---	---



## SECONDARY SCHOOLS.—TABLE V.

## Group IV.—Treatment of Dental Defects.

Defect or Disease.	Number of Pupils Treated.		
	Under L.E.A.'s Scheme	Otherwise	Total
Dental—Specials .. .. .	*296	45	341

\*Included in the Elementary School Statistics.

The total number of parents present at the Routine Medical Inspection for 1939 was 649.

## TABLE VI.

## Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

Only Elementary Schools come under this arrangement.